Deck 1: Dockside

Exhibit: Container Ship (Entrance into exhibits space)

How many containers were on the first container ship, the *Ideal X*, in 1956?

______________________________________________

How many containers can today’s ships carry?

______________________________________________

How has this invention changed the shipping industry?

______________________________________________

Deck 1A: Cargo Deck

Exhibit: Steam Engine

Try your hand at moving the wheel smoothly.

What type of power was used before steam?

______________________________________________

How did the steam engine help maritime transportation and travel?

______________________________________________

______________________________________________
Deck 2A: Lower Containers

Exhibit: Nautical Knots
Try one of the knots shown at this exhibit. Which one did you try? What is this knot used for?

Exhibit: Ocean Planet
Ask the educator to show you the Shipping Trade Routes dataset. What are some of the major canals or waterways shown on the map? Why are these so heavily used?

Exhibit: Comings and Goings
Use the kiosk to display some of the trade routes on the map. What cities in the Gulf of Mexico are large trade centers? Why do you think trade developed more in these cities than elsewhere?

Deck 3: Discovery Hull

Exhibit: Tools of the Trade
Examine some of the tools displayed here. Choose one that you think is no longer used, and tell why you think this.

Deck 3A: Upper Containers

Exhibit: Cargo Handler
Try lifting a couple of different bags. What effect do the number of pulleys have on the lift? Why is this important for shipping?

Deck 5: The Bridge

Exhibit: Hidden Highways
How and why is a barge more efficient than rail cars and semi-tractor trailers?

Exhibit: MariTimeline
What insect entered the United States through Mobile in the 1930s? What type of food did it hitch a ride on? Why is this an important event to look at and remember?

Exhibit: Portholes to the Sea
Watch how the imports and exports develop over the centuries. Did one of the items surprise you? Why?